

**MINUTES OF
CENTRAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING 7 Jul 20
Zoom Meeting**

WELCOME AND OPEN: Meeting opened by Michael H. at 7:08 pm with the Serenity Prayer.

TWELVE TRADITIONS: The Twelve Traditions were read by Eric L

ROLL CALL: N/A

EXECUTIVE	COMMITTEES	CSR	OBSERVERS
Chair – Michael H.	Ad Hock Technology – Marie	Acceptance –	District 1 – Steve A.
Co-Chair – Jamie Q.	CPC – Heather C.	Atlantic -	District 2 – Blair A.
Treasurer – Bill P.	Corrections – Troy S.	Back to Basics – Carol Ann	Area 82 –
Secretary –	Entertainment – Shawn M.	Cole Harbour –	Area 82 –
	Help Email – Michael A.	CVBBS	Area 82 -
	Hospital Visitation –	Eye Opener	
	Literature – Cathy M.	Four Seasons - Eric L.	Angus C. – Welcome
	Newsletter – Kelly D.	Fresh Start –	Jessica – Second Chance
	Mid-Winter – Tom R.	Highland Park – Murdo	
	PI - Leah C.	Hubbard's -	
	Telephone – Sharman M.	Keep it Simple –	
	Treatment – Stephanie J.	New Hope	
	Webmaster – Pedro G.	Second Chance - Gil	
	Webmaster Co-Chair – Jeremy J	Serenity Sisters –	
		Sunday Night Serenity –	
		WESG – Rob A.	
		Welcome – Paul B.	
		We Agnostics –	

CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Jamie Q – Committee reports
Stephanie J – Nomination of Jessica M to co chair of Treatment
Marie – Web Master

Motioned to approve the agenda by Cathy Seconded by Eric

MINUTES APPROVED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:

Motioned to approve the minutes by Cathy . Seconded by Eric L . Motion passed.

REPORTS

Secretary

Position Open no report

Treasurer

No action in Main Account for June. Three outstanding cheques, only the phone has gone through for July.

Mid-Winter Round Up is going virtual, so no great financial risk. They have about \$2000. start up and an unmentioned \$915. owed to Central Service which I will not mention for the time being. The costs should be a little above \$2000. unless there something else from left field.

There are some capital costs on the horizon for PI in the form of a monitor and player, probably of use to other Committees for service fairs and the like.

I am still pushing for a high volume printer to take the place of Staples.

On neither do we have hard numbers.

I am also going to suggest receiving donations to Central Service through our Postal Box number.

Best Regards

Bill Powroz

Central Service Committee June Financials July 7, 2020 Treasurer Report Main Account: Opening Balance: \$6090.93
Closing Balance: \$6090.93 Outstanding Cheques: Telephone: - \$ 254.00 A.A. World Services Inc. (donation) -\$2000.00
Web Rental (\$107.00 U.S.D.) - \$ 132.68 Operating Balance: \$3704.25 Literature: Opening Balance: \$2916.17 Credits: \$
301.85 Debits: - \$1281.32 Closing Balance: \$1937.00 Prudent Account: Operating Balance: \$4893.39 + .20 \$4893.59
Treasurer Bill P.

Co-Chair

Co chair report for Jul 2020.

I had a very productive month. First off questions came up with our insurance coverage and opening up face to face meetings. I contacted the insurance broker and was informed that we have no covid 19 coverage. We would have to purchase pandemic insurance which you can not purchase in the middle of a pandemic. The option will be there once this is all over but they said they are unsure what it will look like.

We also had a request from the Freedom group to be added to the insurance policy. They had to change locations. They will be added to the policy which will take up to 30 days.

I have assumed the duties of CS secretary. Kelly had to step down for personal reasons. Much thanks goes out to Kelly for all her time and effort. I will fill this position until a new secretary is voted in.

Yours in service Jamie Q

Angus – When will we be able to look at Pandemic insurance? Jamie - We cannot currently look into it because we are in the middle of the Pandemic. Once it is over we can re look at it if we want to purchase, but they said it will most likely be very pricey.

Chair

Here we are well into our 4th Month of Zoom meetings. The Government of Nova Scotia has broadened its group bubble requirements. Folks are talking about opening meetings once again.

Central Service's June Zoom Meetings had 40 people present.

In-regards-to Zoom Meetings

When we first started up the Zoom Meetings, it was asked by Central Chair that CSR's and/or GSR's of groups request through our Web Master, group Zoom details to be placed on the website.

Now that there are a few meetings face to face that appear to be morphing from Zoom, we are requesting again, that if this is the case, that CSR's and/or GSR's inform the webmaster via email on the website the changes. Perhaps webmaster could put up on the web a "how-to", for this task.

Another topic of discussion, would be, when are we at Central Service going to discontinue Zoom meetings, and morph our own meeting to the church basement once again?

On the subject of meetings, Districts 1 and 2 require their presence at Central Service, and Central Service requires their presence at Districts 1 and 2. District 2 gives their meeting the second Sunday at 2pm, and District 1 last Sunday at 2 pm.

That is half of the Sundays each month, where the member doing service does not have a full weekend for family balance.

As Central Service chose a weekday and, in the eve, could Districts 1 and 2 do the same?

Lastly, I had asked Webmaster to place a search function into the website on the homepage. So, now there is a tool for people to search for historical documents. Thank you, webmaster.

Thank you all for your leadership in service,

Yours in service,

Michael Handley

Chairperson Central Service

Districts 1 and 2

Area 82

Is the church where the Central Service meeting is held open yet? Michael H and Bill P were unsure but will look into it.

Committees:

Ad-Hock Tech

Below are the initiatives and the progress made. We are trending at an acceptable rate to our dates and tasks. No risks identified. Comments on a few items below: • Printer Assessment – Next steps-Pam is working with Charles on the requirements gathering and then her next steps will be to find a solution to recommend. • Digital Monitor – This is with the PI Committee at this stage. There was some concern with the weight of the 32inch monitor but a smaller monitor could be sourced instead if desired. • Website Usability – The focus on the initiative right now is researching other AA websites for usability trends/wins/room for improvement, analyzing our sites Google analytics and creating a meaningful survey for our members. We have created a survey for the Mid Winter Round Up Committee so we have one survey under our belt to gain some experience. Marie

Jamie Q – Can we get the new link for the Central Service meeting on the website

CPC

CPC report for June, Things have been slow but I received a call from a Pharmacy in Sheet Harbour looking for information for a client, also Bill put together information for Doctors NS of what we do and what we don't do, Charles added the links to the pamphlets that we use.. I also attended the committee meeting on June 29th. I also attended the committee workshop put on at the service weekend June 20th. Yours in service. Heather C CPC chair

Corrections

Due to COVID-19, all meetings continue to be on hold. Office personnel returned this week for the first time. Based on today's conversation, it will likely be several weeks before a reopening decision is finalized. Some committee members continue to work with inmates via telephone. There are also members within working the Steps with each other at this time. Literature inventory continues to be maintained in the facility with placement in the library, Chapel and provided for distribution by Case Workers/Prison Staff. This can be accomplished on a weekly basis. We are extremely fortunate to have a great working relationship with the Senior decision makers in the facility and Provincial Department of Justice.

Yours in service,

Troy

Entertainment

I've just received a notice from the Provincial Park Co-ordinator Mr. Tom Prest stating that for all Provincial Parks there is to be no group camping allowed for the 2020 season due to the Covid-19 restrictions. Therefore it is great regret that we must cancel the AA Annual Campout that was scheduled for the first weekend in August. Please let everyone know about the cancellation. In Service, Shawn M.

Help Email

Help email responded to 8 New Emails in June. All 8 were new to the program. Looking for information on meetings. Explained that we are currently on Zoom meetings. 6 out of the 8 persons are currently on Zoom meetings. Have Big Books and working with a Temp sponsor. Thanks, Yours In Service Michael A Help Email Coordinator

Hospital Visitation

There is not much to update since last month. Due to COVID hospital visits are still not possible and Zoom meetings have helped those who normally would not be able to get to meetings access them.

We still do have a list of members who would be happy to chat on the phone to someone who is not techn savvy.
Any questions please send along to the hospital visitation inbox. Allison

Literature

Bank account activity is Starting balance is \$3657.94 with total deposits (i.e. net sales) in the amount of \$301.95. Expenses were CQ 115 for \$50.00 rent and CQ 120 for literature purchase from AAWS in amount of \$1231.32. Balance at the end of June was \$2,678.47. Gross sales were \$304.00 and SQ received \$2.15 in fees. The SQUARE has been updated for reorder points and with that I will be placing an order soon to bring levels up. Estimated cost will be \$1000 to AAWS and \$550 to Grapevine. Cathy

Heather asked about pamphlets for CPC

Mid-Winter

Mid-winter R/UP committee continues to meet bi-weekly. Our next meeting is Sun July 19th @ 1pm. We are still looking to fill a couple positions. Entertainment Chair and Co-Chair. At our last meeting, Sunday past, a motion was put on the table and after much discussion, voted on and passed that the 2021 Mid-winter R/UP will be held virtual in the month of Feb 2021. This was not an easy decision seeing we as fellow members enjoy the physical connection of the fellowship at all our R/UPS, Conferences, Assemblies, Meetings, etc...A big thank you to committee members Bill P & Marie M for putting together a survey sent out to our members in Area 82 looking for feedback in helping the committee members with input in making that decision.(I believe that survey may not be up on our website and in our newsletter) There will be no further discussion on an actual physical R/Up. Marie has done some research regarding the Zoom platform (services, costs, number of participants, rooms, etc.). At our next meeting we will be looking at a theme, setting a date and starting a program. Our team is very optimistic, enthusiastic and excited ,especially now that we have a decision in place. We now get to roll up our sleeves and get to work at presenting a very entertaining and fun filled 2021 Mid-winter R/UP for all of our members of Area 82 and possibly beyond. All are welcome to attend our next meeting on July 19 @1pm.

Yours with gratitude Mid-winter R/UP Chair Tom Richard

Newsletter

We are looking forward to the return of the opening of the in person of meetings and the return of birthdays. Committee Chairs, please continue to send your announcements in to the Bluenose team by the 25th of the month. As always, we are looking for new content from members for the bulletin.

Kelly and Eric

PI

Members of the Pubic Information Committee met with all the Area 82 Committees and the Alt. GSD on June 29, 2020 for our monthly meeting to share and discuss what everyone is doing to carry the message in other Districts.

We also attended the Area Committee Workshop at the NFLD Service Weekend. The Public Information Committee from District 11 in Washington State put on a workshop on Anonymity and Speaking at Non-AA Meetings.

Bill P. attended a panel with the East Coast Music Association on behalf of the PI Committee on June the 9, 2020.

Our committee has been having good success in agencies and organizations, such as the Halifax office of the Canadian Mental Health Association and Home Instead Senior Care wanting us to send them information on AA,

We also made contact with Doctors NS and they have agreed to put information about AA on their website. We did up a letter with the local website information, pamphlet links with pamphlets about AA and for the Professionals. We added the Area 82 website, GSO website for pamphlets as well as a link to the newsletter for Professionals called About AA which professionals can have sent directly to their email.

We will continue to reach out to carry the message with various projects.

Yours in Service Leah C

Telephone

All the phones are back to regular scheduling and rotation. The weekend phone list is now back in the newsletter every month. The rotation is the same as it was before the pandemic shut down.

I am looking for members who would take the overnight phone for a one to two month length of time. The hours are 11pm to 9am from Monday to Friday. You can contact me if you are or know of someone who is interested.

Thank you Phone Committee Chair Sharman M

Treatment

With the current situation of COVID still quite prevalent, all treatment facilities remain closed. I telephoned De-Tox and was advised they are still not allowing group meetings and are unsure as to when they will be able to re-start them. They are in good supply of literature and I advised I would call again in a couple of months to touch base with them. I also called the Marguerite Center and am waiting for a return call.

Jessica M. has agreed to take the role of co-chair for Treatment and is waiting to be validated by Central Service.

Yours gratefully in service, Stephanie J.

Webmaster

Last month I worked on several meeting list updates now that some groups are going back to in person meetings. I performed the usual maintenance of the various parts of WordPress. Visits to the site continues to be high but the trend started to slow down. In June we had roughly 18k visits down from 19.7k in the previous month.

That's all I have :-) Cheers Pedro

Rob – Any stats are where the visits are coming from. Pedro – not currently but I can look into that

Paul – Can we please get all the proper information to Pedro so that all the website information is up to date?

District 1

District 1 DCM Report to Districts 1 & 2 Central Service Committee

Submitted July 6th, 2020

2020 Nova Scotia Service Weekend

- Took place over the four days of June 6th, 12th, 13th, and 20th using the Zoom videoconferencing platform.
- The June 6th evening meeting consisted of receiving reports from the two archivists, as well as an Area 82 Committee meeting with participation by the Area 82 officers and many of the seventeen DCMs from throughout Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and Labrador.
- A workshop entitled *Many Aspects of Service*, was held on June 12th for A.A. participants throughout Area 82, and beyond. This well-received and inspiring workshop was expertly facilitated by Billy N. of Buford, Georgia. At one point I noted there were 99 participants in the videoconference.
- The main business of the Nova Scotia Service weekend took place on Saturday, June 13th, with a total of 14 of the 27 G.S.O.-listed groups in District 1 participating (a 52% turnout compared to the 38.5% turnout for the in-person weekend held in Truro in 2019). Overall, of the 141 G.S.O.-listed groups in Nova Scotia, 54 participated in the Service Weekend (a 38% turnout).
 - Kirk S., the Area 82 Delegate, gave a report on the 70th Annual General Service Conference which was held using online meeting technology. Kirk's written report can be viewed and downloaded by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/Delegate-Report>.
- On Saturday, June 20th, an Area 82 service committees' workshop took place which focused on the pamphlet *Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings* (this pamphlet can be viewed and downloaded by visiting:

https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/p-40_speaknonAAmeet.pdf). The workshop facilitators were from Tacoma, Washington state.

- Polls were taken during the Nova Scotia Service Weekend, and during the Newfoundland & Labrador Service Weekend, with each in favour of cancelling the in-person Area 82 Assembly scheduled for October 9th to 11th, in St. John's, Newfoundland & Labrador. **Therefore, the Area 82 Assembly in October 2020 will be held using the Zoom videoconferencing platform.**

June 2020 District 1 General Service Committee Meeting

- Held by Zoom videoconferencing on Sunday, June 28th, a total of thirteen people participated: including eleven GSRs; two District 1 officers; the Central Service Co-Chairperson; the Area 82 Alternate Delegate; and the Panel 67 Area 82 Past-Delegate. It is worth noting that 65% of the current District 1 GSRs participated in this meeting.
- Al P. resigned as District 1 Secretary in June 2020. Al has been replaced by Paul B. I thank Paul B. for stepping up to serve District 1 in this position.
- District 1 is still seeking a Treasurer. Anyone interested in receiving information about this position, please give me a call at 902-405-5488.

HOSTING CERAASA IN AREA 82 IN 2023

- At my request, Tim M., the Panel 67 Area 82 Past-Delegate, spoke on an idea that District 1 has been discussing over the past few months about hosting CERAASA in Nova Scotia from February 24th to 26th, 2023. CERAASA means Canadian Eastern Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly and it is held every other year somewhere in Eastern Canada (i.e., Ontario, Quebec, or Atlantic Canada). The next CERAASA is scheduled to take place in St. Catharines, Ontario, from February 26th to 28th, 2021 (for information, visit <https://www.ceraasa.org/>).
- Because hosting CERAASA would be an Area 82 function, Tim suggested that any motion going forward ought to state that Area 82, not just Nova Scotia, would host CERAASA in 2023. Tim also noted that the other nine areas in Eastern Canada are assuming that Area 82 will be submitting a bid in February 2021 to host CERAASA in 2023.
- Tim described how helpful his participation in the February 2017 CERAASA held in Moncton was to him as a then new Area 82 Delegate. He was able to meet the nine other Eastern Canada delegates before participating in his first General Service Conference held later in April 2017.
- Additionally, Tim outlined how important hosting a CERAASA would be to raising the profile of general service in Area 82, and for helping members in Area 82 to gain a better understanding of the nature and role of general service in Alcoholics Anonymous.
- Finally, Tim noted that District 1's idea of holding CERAASA in 2023 in conjunction with the Mid-Winter Roundup in 2023 could be a possibility, particularly if the registration monies were kept separate for accounting purposes. He also stated that organizing committee volunteers could be solicited from across the two provinces in Area 82, as well as from the rest of Eastern Canada.
- The A.A. groups in District 1 are now considering whether to move forward with a bid or motion to Area 82 to host CERASSA in District 1 in 2023, and, while no decision has yet been made, discussions will continue.

Next District 1 Workshop

The next District 1 workshop will be held by Zoom videoconferencing on Sunday, July 26th, from 1 pm to 2 pm. The workshop is entitled *Contributions and Self-Support: Understanding the Seventh Tradition*, and will be facilitated by Mary W. of the Back to Basics Group. The Zoom meeting ID is 902 405 5488 and the password is District1. The workshop flyer can be viewed and downloaded by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/July2020-Workshop>.

Respectively submitted, peace and love in service, Steve A. DCM District 1, Area 82

District 2

District 2 DCM Report July 7, 2020

Good evening friends, I am grateful to be here and grateful to be sober. District 2 held their June monthly meeting through Zoom with three GSR's in attendance plus the executive of District 2.

The month of June was busy with Area 82 and District 2 business, even with the restrictions on social gatherings:

- The 2020 International Convention Virtual site is now accessible on aa.org and the site will be available all throughout the month of July 2020. The direct link is <https://2020convention.aa.org>.
- The Area 82 Officers and DCMs from Nova Scotia and Newfoundland met on June 6 via Zoom.
- Area 82 held a workshop via Zoom on June 12 covering the "Many Aspects of Service". Billy N. (Class B Trustee, Past Director and GSD) did a great job talking about his many roles in service and gave great insight on Service in AA as a whole.
- The virtual NS Service Meeting was held June 13. There was representation from 54 groups (38%) and all 11 districts in Nova Scotia. District 2 had 6 of its 16 groups represented. Below is a list of the highlights:
 - An update on the money contributed to the Eastern Canadian Hospitality Suite at the 2020 International Convention was given by Tim M. Past Delegate
 - No report was given for AACYPAA or Remote Communities
 - The Archive Committee has received a few submissions for the time capsule but are still encouraging members to make a contribution
 - The Area website has been busy with members looking for information on virtual meetings
 - CERASSA 2021 is planning to be held on February 26-28 at the Holiday Inn in St. Catherine's Ontario
 - Monique M. Area 82 Treasurer lead a great discussion around the 2020 and 2019 financial statements
 - Trudy A. Alt. Delegate gave a report on her work with PI, CPC, Corrections, and Treatment Committees in Area 82 over the last few months.
 - Kirk the Area 82 Delegate gave a lengthy and in-depth report on the 70th General Service Conference that was held virtually
 - The four proposals from the groups were discussed in much detail with great participation from the DCMs and GSRs. These will be voted on at what looks like a Virtual Assembly in October
- Area 82 held a virtual workshop on June 20 on the pamphlet "Speaking at Non AA Meetings" in place of the Saturday Night Sharing Session portion of the Service Weekends.
- Area 82 is currently reviewing the financial situation for 2019 and 2020 to determine how much of a donation can be sent to GSO.
- The plan is to put an audio recording of the two Area 82 workshops on www.area82aa.org along with a copy of the Delegates Report from the General Service Conference.
- Area 82 and District 2 is recommending groups do not make contributions to them at this time. GSO has made a \$3 million drawdown from the Reserve Fund, so any contributions would be appreciated.
- The Alt. Delegate for Area 82 is holding monthly Zoom Meetings to discuss any challenges or successes Committees (PI, CPC, Corrections, Treatment, etc.) are facing.
- District 2 will be having their regular monthly meeting July 19 at 2pm. I will make the decision on if it will be in person by the end of this week.
- District 2 will not be holding a workshop in August due to the restrictions on social gatherings, lack of participation at previous workshops, and the vacant Alt. DCM position.
- The following groups in District 2 will be resuming in person meetings

- Downtown Dartmouth effective June 19
- Colby Village Big Book Study effective June 6
- Circle of Sisters on Saturdays effective July 11
- Porters Lake effective July 7
- Keep It Simple effective June 29

The GSRs and Executive of District 2 have received all of the communications sent from Central Service and Area 82 to ensure the groups in District 2 are up to date with the day to day changes. I would like to thank the Committees and Executive of Central Service for ensuring the AA message is still being carried during this difficult time.

Yours in Service,
Blair A.
DCM District 2

Area 82

No report

A motion was made by Cathy and Seconded by Heather to approve the reports.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. COVID 19 challenges No new comments
- b. ZOOM meeting submissions for the website process.

Do we need something written for the process to go back to face to face meeting?
Local Health rules must be followed with proper precautions

Carol Ann – Back to Basics is voting on returning to regular meeting. Looking for input from groups that have already reopened. Micheal suggested talking to Cathy after the meeting.

Jamie – great to put something together but it would only be suggestions. Our four groups meet out of the same room and the center is looking at letting us reopen on Aug 4. To do so we would have to follow any and all health rules as well as the rules the center has put in place.

Cathy – We are noticing that it is one thing to social distance etc when everyone is sitting but as soon as anyone starts to move around etc they are no longer 6 feet apart.

Angus – It is important to note that the rules we have to follow are the minimum acceptable as well.

Murdo – Some groups are asking for waivers to be signed starting groups and or the buildings the meeting is held in are not responsible.

Cathy – stating they have a sheet that has to be signed but it is more for contact tracing.

Memo Open Meetings and Covid 19

1. This document is prepared for information purposes to assist the deliberations of A.A. Groups considering opening up and providing in-person meetings.
2. By virtue of the Health Protection Act of Nova Scotia, the government has made certain regulations which must be obeyed for holding in person events.
3. An A.A. group or body is not above the law.
4. Failure to abide by these regulations, carry penalties.
5. These are known as “strict liability” offenses. It means not following the regulation makes you guilty; the lack of bad intentions does not get you off.
6. Under the regulations as of July 3, 2020, an event is limited to 50% of the set capacity for the room to a maximum of 200. The limit is originally set by the Fire Marshall for public spaces. An outdoor event can have up to 250 people. It is up to the people who run the event to enforce the limits.
7. Under the regulations as of July 3, 2020, there must be social distancing of two metres or six feet between the participants at the event. It is up to the persons who run the event to enforce the distancing.
8. The owners of the facility where the event is held may have additional requirements before any event may be held.
9. The limits on people and social distancing are the only two requirements of the regulations.
10. Anyone may be

sued by simply filing the proper papers to the Court. This does not mean that they will win. There are no cases that have been decided so there is no settled legal opinion on Covid for hosts of public meetings. As protection against being sued it is advisable for everyone to practice “due diligence” which is taking all reasonable precautions to protect the general public. This would require following the two regulations strictly; in addition, as suggestions, sanitizing seats and things people might touch before and after the meeting; perhaps no refreshments, no book or pamphlet browsing, requiring masks or making them available; etc. It is about taking ‘reasonable’ precautions as regular lay people. It is not required to meet the standards of a hospital or nursing home. 11.It is a reasonable suggestion that before the formalities of the meeting begin; that, someone announces the precautions the group has taken in light of the Covid-19 pandemic to protect the public, but that everyone who is in attendance is doing so at their own risk.

Submitted by Bill P.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Jamie – Committee reports – I would like to see the committee reports in the minutes in there full form again so it is a better reference point for other associations
2. Marie – introduced Jessica for Stephanie as a nominee for co chair of Treatment. Michael read the details of the position. Jessica Accepted the Position. It was passed for Jessica to hold the position
3. Marie – Webmaster – Pedro took over as webmaster when the Central Service web master stepped down but he was never actually voted in. Paul nominated Pedro to finish out the current web master term. Jamie seconded. It was passed for Pedro to take over the position officially
4. Jamie – looking for a secretary. No takers

Announcements from the floor

Carol Ann – Back to Basics has 2 virtual birthdays coming up. Judy S with 1 year and Brenda M with 33 years

Next meeting 4 Aug 20, 7 PM

Meeting adjournment at 9 PM with the Responsibility Pledge.